

forward: But, upon what Views, it was not AN' 1711. then known, he stop'd his Course; and, after a short Campaign, repass'd the Mountains.

THE Affairs in Spain had been so much In Spain. pressed from the Throne, and so much insisted on all the Session of *Parliament* (not to mention the great Sums granted for that Service, far beyond what had been ever granted before) that it was expected Matters would have been carried there much otherwise than in former Years. The Duke of *Argile* was sent to command the Queen's Troops there; But for what Reasons, it is not my Province to determine, all those great Expectations came to nothing. Count *Stabremberg* had, indeed, some Advantage over the Duke *de Vendome*, towards the Conclusion of the Year, and, it was said, that if he had received the Assistance he expected from *England*, he would have pierced far into *Spain*; But this is more than I shall pretend to affirm: I shall, therefore, leave this Matter undetermined, and return to *England*.

THE Rumours of Peace began now to prevail every Day more and more, and very different were the Opinions for and against it: Some thought the Continuance of a War insupportable, others were by no Means for finishing it, till the main Point, for which it was entered upon, was fully obtain'd. The latter insisted on the Justice and Reasonableness of carrying on the War, as well with Regard to ourselves as to our Allies, especially in Consideration of the advantageous Situation it was in. The former, on the contrary, among other Things pretended, *England* was now so exhausted, that it was impossible to carry on the War any longer; And more especially since King

*Negotiations
for a Peace
continued.*

AN' 1711. King Charles was chosen *Emperour*, that He would be too great and too dangerous to all His Neighbours, if *Spain* were join'd to the *Empire*, and His hereditary Dominions. It was apprehended, that the Re-union of the two Monarchies, in the Person of King Charles, might render the House of *Austria* as mighty, and as formidable, as it had been in former Times, and might again plunge *Europe* into the same Inconveniencies, for the avoiding of which the War was begun, that is, to prevent *Spain* being annexed to the House of *Bourbon*. This was an Argument the *British* Ministers strenuously insisted upon, to justify the Change of their Conduct, and to oblige the *Allies*, to desist from their Demand of the Restitution of *Spain*, which was the principal Cause of the War, and be contented with some of the exterior Provinces of that Monarchy, and with a simple Renunciation of King *Philip*, for Himself, and His Descendents, for ever, to all Title and Right to the Crown of *France*: But of this more below. Many other Arguments were used on both Sides, too tedious to be recapitulated here. That there was a Negotiation on Foot, no one questioned; But few could tell where to fix it, till the Accident of Mr. *Prior*'s being seiz'd at *Deal*, in his Return from *France*, put it beyond all Doubt, that something extraordinary was transacting between that Crown and *Great Britain*.

Reflections
thereupon.

DIFFERENT have been the Opinions when and where this Negotiation began. Some, tho' they have not positively affirmed, yet, have not been backward to hint, that the first Overture was made from this Side of the Water. Others

(and

(and seemingly with more Probability) suppose it to have come first from France soon after (others again think before) the Breaking off of the Treaty of Gertraydenberg, from the Marquis de Torcy, to the Earl of Jersey. AN' 1711.

THE Report of the Committee of Secrecy (made June 9, 1715) gives us the following Account of this Matter :

“ THE first material Paper (we find) is entitled ; *The first Propositions of France*, sign'd by Monsieur de Torcy, Apr. 22. 1711, N. S. To whom these Propositions were directed, what previous Steps had been made on the Part of France, or what Encouragement had been given, on the Part of England, does not appear ; But it is evident, that they are conceived in very loose and general Terms ; That from the Beginning, the Design of France was to secure Spain and the West-Indies to King Philip ; To create Jealousies among the Allies ; And that France offered to treat with England and Holland, either by themselves, or jointly with the Rest of the Allies, which is left to the Choice of England.

THOSE Propositions, we, however, find, by the same Report, were transmitted a Week afterwards, to the Lord Raby, the Queen's Ambassadour at the Hague, with Orders to communicate them to the Pensionary : But the Committee adds, “ They were surprized to find, after mutual Assurances had passed, on this Occasion, between England and Holland (to take no Step, but in mutual Concert) not the least Communication was made to the States of the Negotiations that were carrying on, for above five Months together ; betwixt Eng-

AN^d 1711. “ *land and France, till after the special Preliminaries* were sign’d, and the seven general “ *Preliminaries* were concluded and sent to “ them.

THE Person first secretly employed in this Affair, was suppos’d to be Monsieur *Gautier*, formerly Chaplain to Marshal *Tallard*, when he was Ambassadour in *England*, and the Marshal was, likewise, said to have had a great Share in promoting this Affair. How long this Business was in Agitation, before any Ear was given to it, is yet a Secret; But Monsieur *de Torcy* insisting, that some trusty Person might be sent over, to whom he might freely open his Mind, Mr. *Prior* was pitch’d on, as being well acquainted with that Minister, and likewise for his personal Qualifications.

The French
Negociators
return.

MONSIEUR *Mesnager*, and his Partner, the Abbot *du Bosc*, having continued some Time between *London* and *Windsor*, and having had several Conferences with the Ministry, took their Leave, the fourth of *October*, in order to return home, highly satisfied with the Honours done them in *England*. It was not then known, how far our Court had carried the Negotiations with *France*; Whether they accepted of these *Preliminaries* only as a Foundation for a Treaty, or if any private Promise or Treaty was sign’d; The latter of which was positively and industriously given out, both in *France* and *Spain*. And the Report of the Committee of Secrecy mentions (as I have said above) special *Preliminaries* being sign’d before the seven General ones were communicated to the States. When, where, and how these Matters were treated is likewise a Secret. “ That Monsieur *Mesnager* (says the same Report) upon his Arrival he “ frequently

frequently conferr'd with the Queen's Ministers, appears by many Instances; But the Subject-Matter of these Conferences, the Times, Places, and particular Persons, with whom he treated, or by what Authority, the Committee find no Account, till the 20th of September, when there was a Meeting between them, at Mr. Prior's, at which he delivered the *secret Preliminary Articles* betwixt Great Britain and France, that were sign'd as such, the 27th, the same Day, the *General Preliminaries* were sign'd by Monsieur Mesnager.

NUMBERLESS were the Pamphlets which were published on this Account, and on both Sides of the Question; Of which, but to give the bare Titles would carry me too far. I shall therefore, lay aside the Controversy, and come to Facts.

HOWEVER, it may not be improper to take Notice, in this Place, of an egregious Instance of the Madness of Parties: For whilst all Europe did Justice to the Duke of Marlborough, and equally admired and extolled his wise Conduct and Valour, his inveterate and ungenerous Enemies, in this divided Nation, endeavour'd to

fully his Laurels, and rob him of the great Addition of immortal Glory his Grace gain'd this last Campaign, insinuating, in several scandalous Papers, "That the passing of the Lines

"was principally owing to General Hompesch;
"That the Siege of Bouchain cost us 16,000 Men; and that the Taking of that Place, and that of a Pigeon-House was the same Thing." An Impartial Pen having vindicated his Grace, in a Pamphlet called Bouchain, or a Dialogue between the Medley and

Justice done the Duke of Marlborough.

Except by some People in England.

the same vindicated by an Impartial Pen.

AN' 1711. *the Examiner*, an Answer was soon published to it, under the Ironical Title of, *The Duke of Marlborough's Vindication*, suppos'd to be written by one of the late Authors of the *Examiner*, who insults his Antagonist, and calls him a *Boutefeu*, *That would set the People on Flame, and advance the General to a Height, where none had ever been hoisted before, only for the bare Consequences that attend his being at the Head of an Army so often victorious, so well paid and encouraged; With no Enemies in View but those whom it was familiar to them to overcome; And who, tho' superiour in Number, yet are wholly dispirited by continual Losses, and at present restrained by the positive Commands of their Monarch; Who has given it in Charge to Monsieur Villars, not to venture the Army, but upon manifest Advantage.*

But his Reputation attack'd by another.

BUT how scandalously and ungratefully soever his Grace was, at this Juncture, used, by some of his Country-men, he had, as I said before, Justice done him by Foreigners, as appears by the following curious Piece :

A LETTER from an Officer of the Confederate Army, before Bouchain, to his Friend, at the Hague, sent to him with a Plan of the Town of Bouchain, and of the Enemy's Lines.

A Letter written by a Foreign Officer, in Praise of the Duke of Marlborough, and giving an Account of the Campaign in Flanders.

WE are at last Masters of Bouchain, the Siege has been short, but very bright, every Day being remarkable for some Action of *Eclat*. The Garrison was numerous, and wanted nothing; It was supported by the French Army: And yet, in Sight

“ Sight of a Hundred Thousand fighting Men, AN^o 1711.
 “ who endeavoured to relieve them, they were
 “ made Prisoners of War. To be fully ap-
 “ prized of the Greatness of this Conquest,
 “ and of the Difficulties that attended it, you
 “ need but view, with Attention, the Plan I
 “ send you herewith; And consider the Po-
 “ sture of the three Armies; The Situation of
 “ the Town of *Bouchain*; The Enemy’s In-
 “ trenchment round *Wavrechin*; The several
 “ Rivers, with so many Bridges laid over
 “ them; The Lines made to cover the Con-
 “ voys; The Neighbouring Places on both
 “ Sides, fill’d with numerous Garrisons, and
 “ continually upon the Watch to strike some
 “ great Blow: The Communication cross the
 “ Morass, which with good Reason, made us
 “ apprehensive of a Siege, like that of *Verue*
 “ or *Keyserfwaert*; The stupendous Works,
 “ made in order to cut off that Communica-
 “ tion, and worthy either of *Julius Cæsar*, or
 “ of *Alexander Farnese*: Those Trenches dug
 “ out, as it were, by Enchantment, between
 “ the Enemy’s Intrenchments and the Town.
 “ In a Word, call to Mind all that has been
 “ done, from the Entrance into the Lines, to
 “ the Reduction of *Bouchain*; and you will find
 “ it to be a continued Series of great Atchieve-
 “ ments, in which Valour and Prudence have
 “ acted in Concert: This is an Epitome of
 “ all the most celebrated Sieges: Those of
 “ *Elexia*, and *Ostend*, differ only from this by
 “ the Length of Time, in which the Advan-
 “ tage lies, by much, on the Side of This. A
 “ Gun was not shot, but the Marshal *de Vil-*
 “ *lars* saw the Smoak, or heard the Report of
 “ it. He try’d and attempted all possible
 “ Ways

AN' 1711. " Ways to force or surprize us; And if, at
 " our passing of the Lines, he forget himself
 " a While, he seem'd, afterwards, to have
 " gathered all his Vigour; recalled his pristine
 " Vigilance, and recovered his former Genius
 " and Spirit, to revenge himself on my Lord
 " Duke. But all his Vivacity, all his Spite,
 " avail'd him nothing. Our General has been
 " impenetrable on all Sides, and has both fore-
 " seen and defeated all Attacks; notwithstand-
 " ing continual Alarm, he has maintained
 " Tranquility and Calmness in this great Ar-
 " my; and what by Lines, and what by De-
 " tachments sent out *à propos*, he has baffled
 " all the Enemies Motions, without almost
 " seeming so much, as to stir himself; And
 " while, by his Command, all is on Fire, on
 " one Side of the *Scheld*, he is on the other, in
 " a wonderful Composure of Mind, concert-
 " ing the Good of his Army, and of all *Eu-*
 " *rope*. A Hero, upon all Accounts: And
 " no less dreadful by the Terror of his Arms,
 " than respectable by his Serenity!

" NEITHER can I but admire the Choice his
 " Grace made of General *Fagel*, to command
 " this Siege: A Choice abundantly justified,
 " by the Success that crowns all his Enter-
 " prizes. That General has sustained infinite La-
 " bours: He was constantly in the Trenches,
 " shewing himself indefatigable; liberal; seeing
 " every Thing with his own Eyes; Forward-
 " ing and assisting the Execution of the Orders
 " he had given; improving every Moment
 " of Time, which is so precious in War;
 " particularly on this Occasion, where a power-
 " ful Army, within Musket-shot, and which
 " silently grew daily stronger, might have cha-
 " ged

ged the whole Affair, within the twinkling
of an Eye. The Works carried on with so
much Art and Prudence: The Tobacco so
dextrously distributed to the Enemy's Sol-
diers: The Reports so industriously spread
amongst them, to terrify them: The Mines
discovered on this Occasion: The firing of
Cannon on Purpose to give Notice of, and
disappoint the Design upon *Douay*. In a
Word, his whole Conduct, from the Be-
ginning to the End of the Siege, compleats
his Glory, and as *Bouchain*, by a Thousand
bright Circumstances, will preserve its Lustre,
even amidst the Battles of *Blenheim*, *Ramil-
lies*, *Oudenarde*, *Blaregnies*, and many other
signal Victories, General *Fagel*, who so wise-
ly executed my Lord Duke's Orders, has
thereby gain'd an immortal Name, in His-
tory.

My Lord *North* and *Gray*, who com-
manded at the Siege, did also very much
distinguish himself; He was extream active
in carrying on his Attack, which beyond
Dispute was the most difficult and the most
exposed: There often fell Showers of Bombs
from the Enemy's Intrenchments, which
made it necessary to be on all Sides upon
one's Guard both Night and Day. You
are not a Stranger to that Lord, he is, in-
deed, one of the bravest Men in the Army:
And his Valour has already cost him an Arm;
But he values not Life, when Glory is in
View. Both Soldiers and Officers are equal-
ly pleased with him: For he has done
Justice to the Merit of the one, and re-
warded the Courage of the other.

" I SHALL

AN' 1711.

“ I SHALL say nothing of our Generals,
 “ five only, that they are all of them very
 “ great Men, and command the most coura-
 “ gious Troops in the World : For I am nei-
 “ ther able to record their Actions, nor, were
 “ my Abilities equal to the Task, is this Let-
 “ ter a proper Place for it. I leave it to im-
 “ partial Annalists and Historians, who shall
 “ take Care to transmit a faithful Account of
 “ this memorable Siege to After-Ages, to do
 “ them full Justice : For I only set down in
 “ writing, what at present, occurs to my
 “ Thoughts, in the Hurry of a Camp.

“ HOWEVER, to gratify your Desire, I shall
 “ tell you, that General *Cadogan* (of whom you
 “ enquire in particular) is a Man of *Steel* ; is
 “ ever ready for Action ; Takes a Resolution
 “ in an Instant, and always the best : He gave
 “ signal Proofs of it at *Oudenarde*, and on other
 “ Occasions : And, this last Campaign, he
 “ was every where. What an honourable Place
 “ will that General hold in my Lord Duke's
 “ History ? And how bright will that Histo-
 “ ry be, if it happens to be handled by a sin-
 “ cere and skilful Pen ? His Grace has much
 “ of the Air of the *Great SCIPIO*. His
 “ good Nature, Affability, Wisdom, Valour,
 “ and Moderation bear much Resemblance with
 “ the other's Virtues ; and a few Things ex-
 “ cepted, their Characters are extreme like. In
 “ this Comparison, General *Cadogan* will hold
 “ the Place of *Laius* : Tho' the *Briton*, not-
 “ withstanding the Disadvantages of the Cli-
 “ mate, seems to have more Fire than the
 “ *Roman*. Time, which decides the Destiny of
 “ Men, will also pronounce as to their Philo-
 “ sophy.

” BUT

AN' 1711.

" BUT now I think on't, what will you say
" of me, who of a Soldier, on the sudden, turn
" Orator, and instead of a Letter write a Pane-
" gyrick? The Reason of it is, because the
" hear Recital of this CAMPAIGN is one: And
" as I am fully convinc'd of it, I am confident
" you are so likewise. — I write Post-haste,
" and without any Design, neither am I any
" more concern'd in any thing I write, than
" as a good Patriot, for, I can assure you, I
" have no Rewards in View. To proceed, I
" am persuaded that our Generals, with such
" an Army, might conquer the whole World,
" if they were led by Ambition, as they are by
" the more noble and generous Design of procur-
" ing the Tranquility and Happiness of *Europe*,
" neither the *Macedonian Phalanx*, nor the *Ro-*
" *man* Legions were better than our Troops.
" There is amongst them a Point of Honour,
" and an inexpressible Ardor, from the highest
" to the lowest, every one striving to distin-
" guish himself. A few Days before the Sur-
" render of the Town, a young Ensign of
" *Gauvain's* Regiment, out of Vivacity, threw
" some Hand Granadoes into one of the
" Enemy's Posts, and having set a Barrel of
" Powder of Fire, took about 20 Men, with
" their Officer that commanded them, Pri-
" soners. Another Ensign, of *Ingoldsby's*, not
" being able, by Reason of his low Stature,
" to wade thro' the Morass where the Water
" was deep, without being drown'd, cross'd it,
" perch'd, *Anchises* like, on a Soldier's Shoulders,
" chusing rather to expose himself to a certain
" Death, if the *French* had done their Duty,
" than to turn Tail.

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THESE brisk Actions shew the Spirit that animates this great Body; Which tho' made up of a Thousand different Pieces, is nevertheless so well jointed, so well cemented, so well united, by an admirable Harmony, and good Understanding, that it seems not only to be form'd of one single Nation, but even of one large Family. How Wise and Fortunate is the Father that rules it? For, it must be own'd, Fortune is no less conspicuous than Wisdom, in a Miracle that continues so many Years; And which being unprecedented, in Antiquity, will, perhaps, never be match'd in after Ages.

You must agree with me, that Fortune is much delighted with the *Low Countries*, and that our Army is her constant Favourite: Every where else she plays with Mankind: At *Barcelona* and *Madrid*, two Kings miss her by Turns; In *Italy* she proves inconstant, and the true *Heroes* are not always Conquerours. A young and formidable Prince, upon the point of equalling *Alexander* the Great, after having made and unmade Kings, miscarries thro' Excess of Ardor, and, neglecting solid Glory for a more shining Phantom, disappears, as it were, on the sudden. His Conquerour, who little expected to be so, becomes in his Turn, the Terror of his Neighbours. The noble Design of transforming a whole Nation in a few Years, and the Success that attends it; Rapid Conquests, a well disciplin'd, victorious Army; Wise and well laid Measures, powerful *Allies*: All seems dispos'd to compleat his Glory, and to promise Him new Triumphs: But the same Fire that consum'd His Rival, devour him in his Turn, and had

" con-

" it not a been for a Piece of inimitable Pru-
" dence, in a sudden Treaty, which, perhaps,
" will cost the *Turkish* General very dear, He
" might have met with the same Fate on the
" *Pruth*, which the other had on the *Boristhenes*;
" In *Spain* they look upon one another; in
" *Germany* they go into Barracks; In *Dauphiny*
" the Snow and Rain threaten both Armies;
" And here we are *Victorious*. Agree with me,
" Sir, that a General must, after all, be extream
" wise, to be ever thus fortunate; Or, which
" is the same, that his good Fortune is, in great
" Measure, owing to his *superior Genius*. But
" once more, what will you say of me, who as I
" said before, avoid entering into the Detail of
" our Campaign, and neglect a Subject-Mat-
" ter ready prepar'd, that offers itself of its own
" accord, and who, after that, soar aloft, and
" ramble after Moralities through *Europe*?
" You'll say what you please: But I own, be-
" fore hand, that I observe no Manner of Or-
" der in what I write, I told you so before,
" and am as good as my Word; Reason is
" more wary, more coherent, more methodical:
" I beg you to excuse mine at present: For it
" is debauch'd by Affection, and only speaks
" the Language of the Heart. Nor is this
" Language without Merit, for it is true and
" sincere, and therefore it may be allowed some
" Irregularities, nay some Solecisms; And
" provided it have its Effect, which is to touch
" and persuade, Reason ought not to require
" any more. I love to be short, but cannot be
" so at present, because Joy is a Tatler; And I
" am transported with my Lord Duke's Glory,
" in which we have all of us a Share, as well as
" yourself, by your sincere Concern for the Pub-

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lick Good; And therefore you ought to bear with my Loquacity.

I HEAR every Day some Partisans of France, Men otherwise of tolerable Parts, say the most wretched, pitiful Things, in Relation to my Lord Duke's constant good Fortune. They pretend that the surprising of the Lines, the Enemy's Communication with *Bouchain* is defended, and even the Battle of *Ramellies* lost. All this, say they, was done by express Orders from *Versailles*; Upon a Prospect of Peace; In short, if you believe them, the Generals play'd Booty, on these and the like Occasions; And were beforehand agreed, that my Lord Duke should ever be victorious, and the *French* ever beaten. Admire, I beseech you, the Height of their Intoxication! They rather chuse to suppose an extravagant, an unprecedented Piece of Policy, than frankly to own they are beaten the common-Way, as other Men are. All their Resource now is to say, *Spain* will remain in the *House* of *Bourbon*, Peace will be concluded; And the shortest Way, in their Opinion, to procure it, is to lose every Year some Towns or Battles. Good God! what frantick Notions does human Reason suggest, when Passion and Prejudice puts it off the Hinges. You, dear Sir, who (without reflecting on your polite Taste, and Literature be it spoken) are a thorough paced Logician; And, if occasion offered, would push a Sillogism, with as much Vigour, as a Grenadier a Bayonet, know very well, that the driving one's Adversary to argue at this Rate is to *Nonplus* him, and make him as ridiculous as he is unfortunate.

“ As

AN^d 1711.

“ As for the Sequel of the Campaign, about
 “ which you desire my Opinion, I know no
 “ more of it than yourself; One of my Lord
 “ Duke’s Maxims, and which never fail’d him
 “ yet, is to deceive his own Army, in order to
 “ deceive the Enemy’s: And so the *French*, who
 “ rely upon their Spies, are generally impos’d on
 “ by them. However, it is certain, that if
 “ the rainy Weather, the advanced Season,
 “ the Scarcity of Forage, and the Neighbour-
 “ hood of the Enemy’s Army, which daily
 “ grows stronger, could permit the Siege of
 “ *Quesnoy*, that Conquest would be very con-
 “ venient for us: For by drawing two Lines,
 “ one towards *Mons*, the other towards *Bouchain*,
 “ We should, thereby, inclose *Valenciennes*,
 “ *Condé*, and several other Places; And form
 “ a Point, that would reach pretty deep, into
 “ the Heart of the very Enemy’s Country, and
 “ would be of mighty Use for the next Cam-
 “ paign. Who can tell but there may be a
 “ Battle between these two Sieges, like that of
 “ *Blaregnies*; If such a Thing happens, I dare
 “ prophecy, it will cost us less, because, in all
 “ Appearance, my Lord Duke’s Orders, will
 “ be literally executed, and *Valour* shall act
 “ in Concert with *Prudence*: Nor will the
 “ Troops think they lose their Reputation,
 “ for being Conquerors two Hours later. But
 “ whatever comes to pass, you may depend
 “ upon it, that our Generals will take the best
 “ Course; And that, in Case this Campaign
 “ ends sooner than ordinary, ’twill be in order
 “ to begin the next earlier, and by quartering
 “ most of the Troops, in the Conquered Coun-
 “ tries, ly in a Readiness to over-run the Ene-
 “ my’s in the Spring: For as to the making

AN' 1711. " new Lines, we shall either prevent it, or use
 " them at the usual Rate. They are a Bugbear
 " that frights us no more. Nothing is difficult
 " to *Courage* led by *Reason*:

I am, &c.

*The Emperour
 sends Circular
 Letters to the
 Princes of the
 Empire;*

BUT to return to the Transactions previous to the Negotiations for a Peace which ensued: The new *Emperour*, having seen the Offers made by *France*, wrote Circular Letters to the several Electors and Princes of the *Empire*, to signify his Disapprobation of them, and to exhort them, not to give any Ear to them: Declaring, at the same Time, that, for his Part, he had taken an irrevocable Resolution to suffer whatever might be the Event, rather than give his Consent to a Negotiation, which would be absolutely destructive to the *Empire*, and a Prejudice to the Liberties of all *Europe*.

*And writes to
 the States-Ge-
 neral,*

HE, likewise, sent a Letter to the *States-General*, wherein, among other Things, he observ'd the fatal Consequences, which must necessarily attend the giving up the *Spanish* Monarchy, and the Augmentation of Power, which would thereby accrue to the Enemy. His *Imperial* Majesty thought it, likewise, proper to take Notice, in this Letter, that *France* was not in a Condition to withstand the Army of the *Allies*, neither in the Field, nor in their fortified Towns, and said He could not help being irritated at those, who, having so often experienced the Illusions of *France*, would again have a Reliance on that good Faith, which they always promis'd, but never kept. He continued to assure them, that he depended upon Their Concurrence with him, to endeavour at least

*To dissuade
 them from ac-
 cepting the
 Offers made
 by France.*

to induce the Queen of *Great Britain*, to reject *AN' 1711* these Offers, and to continue the War: *Protesting*, that for Himself, whatever might be the Consequences, He absolutely rejected them, and would never empower his Ambassadors to assist at the Conferences, which were propos'd for treating upon them.

THE Earl of *Strafford*, in the mean Time, *The Earl of* was dispatch'd for the *Hague*, to know the *Strafford sent* Sentiments of the *States-General*, and to use *to the Hague.* his Endeavours to induce their *High Mightinesses* to consent to a general Congress. His Lordship arrived at the *Hague*, the tenth of *October*; And, eight Days after, Monsieur *Buys*, Pensionary of *Amsterdam*, whom the *States* appointed, on this Occasion, as their Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of *Great-Britain*, arrived at *London*. To pass by the several previous Transactions negotiated at *London* and the *Hague*, I shall only observe, that the *States-General*, at Length, consented to a Congress, and that, on the nineteenth of *November*, at a Committee of Council, held at the *Cockpit*, where *The Time and* the Lord Treasurer, and Monsieur *Buys* assisted, the Time and Place was fixed to the *Place of the Congress fix'd.* first of *January*, O. S. in *Utrecht*. Whereupon the next Day, Circular Letters were sent, by Her Majesty's Order, to all the Foreign Ministers residing here, to notify the same to their respective Masters, that they might likewise send their *Plenipotentiaries*, at the Time and Place appointed.

I MENTION'D above, that the Duke of *Marlborough* came to *Greenwich*, the seventeenth of *November*. A Story had been raised, by his Grace's Enemies, that he was to have made his Publick Entry into *London*, that Night, when

AN' 1711. when, in Commemoration of Queen *Elizabeth's* Inauguration, publick Rejoicings were to have been made, (but were prevented by the Government) in burning the *Pope*, the *Devil*, and the *Pretender*; But the Duke wisely avoided that Censure, by staying that Night at *Greenwich*, and coming the next Morning early thro' the City. His Grace took Coach soon after, and waited on Her Majesty at *Hampton-Court*, where he was graciously received.

And is graciously received.

A Memorial from the Elector of Hannover presented.

WITH the Duke, came over Baron *Bothmar*, Envoy Extraordinary from his *Electoral Highness* of *Hannover*, who, about a Week after, had a private Audience of her Majesty, and the next Day presented that famous Memorial, which, at that Time, made a great Noise, and was liable to much Censure: Tho' it was receiv'd, with great Applause, by all Well-wishers to the Protestant Succession, who highly commended the *Electors* of *Hannover*, for his seasonable Interposition, in an Affair that so nearly concern'd him; Tho' it gave no small Offence to some Persons.

The D. of Marlborough visits the Ministers.

Plenipotentiaries nominated.

THE Duke, for his Part, spent several Days, after his Arrival, in visiting the chief of the Ministry, amongst whom, to shew, that he entertain'd no Personal Dissatisfaction, he paid his Compliments to the Earl of *Oxford*. Peace was now the Subject of every Conversation. Her Majesty having named Her Plenipotentiaries, and given Commission to the Bishop of *Bristol*, Lord Privy Seal, and the Earl of *Strafford*, for that Purpose, for whom Instructions were actually drawing up.

It was observable, that tho' the Duke of *Marlborough* arriv'd, as I have said above, the 18th in the Morning, and, the same Day, waited on

waited on the Queen at *Hampton-Court*; Yet he did not assist, either at the Committee of Council, which was held, the next Day, at the *Cock-pit*, nor at any other Consultation, about the present Negotiation of Peace. AN' 1711.

THE Time for Opening the *Parliament* approaching, Pains were taken on many Persons, to persuade them to agree to the Measures the Court were in. It was said, that the Duke of *Marlborough*, upon his coming over, spoke very plainly to the Queen, against the Steps that were already made; But he found Her so possess'd, that what he said made no Impression; So he desired to be excused from coming to Council; Since he must oppose every Step which was made in that Affair; And this was undoubtedly the Reason for his absenting himself.

Some Observations on the Duke of Marlborough's Conduct.

BISHOP *Burnet*, speaking of these Matters, has a very odd Paragraph; which, for the Singularity of it, I shall insert. Among others, (says he) the Queen spoke to my self, She said, "She hoped Bishops would not be against the Peace. I said (*continues he*) a good Peace was what we daily pray'd for; But the *Preliminaries* offered by *France* gave no Hopes of such a one; And the trusting to the King of *France's* Faith, after all that had pass'd, would seem a strange Thing. She said, we were not to regard the *Preliminaries*; We shou'd have a Peace upon such a Bottom, that we should not at all rely on the King of *France's* Word; But we ought to suspend our Opinions, till She acquainted us with the whole Matter. I ask'd Leave to speak my Mind plainly; Which She granted; I said any Treaty, by which *Spain* and the *West Indies* were left to

An odd Paragraph of Bishop Burnet's.

AN' 1711. " King Philip, must, in a little while, deliver
 " up all *Europe* into the Hands of *France*;
 " And, if any Peace should be made, She was
 " betrayed, and we were all ruined; In less
 " than three Years, She would be murdered,
 " and the Fires would be again raised in *Smith-*
 " *field*: I pursued this long, till I saw She grew
 " uneasy; So I withdrew."

A Remark
 upon it.

I SHALL not pretend to say, how far the
 Bishop then might, or might not, have Reason
 to form such harsh Conjectures; But must won-
 der, that as he lived to find Matters did not
 happen to fall out quite so bad as he had fore-
 told, why he did not expunge this Prophecy
 out of his Manuscript.

The Parlia-
 ment meets.

Abstract of her
 Majesty's
 Speech.

BOTH Houses of Parliament met, after feve-
 ral Prorogations, on the seventh of *December*;
 When the Queen, in Her Speech from the
 Throne, " gave Them to understand, that both
 " the Place and Time were appointed, for
 " opening the Treaty of a General Peace, in
 " Concert with her *Allies*, the *States-General*,
 " (whose Interest She look'd upon as insepara-
 " ble from her own) notwithstanding the
 " Arts of those who delighted in War. She
 " said, the ready Concurrence of the *States*,
 " shewed They reposed an entire Confidence
 " in Her; And She promised to do Her ut-
 " most to procure reasonable Satisfaction for
 " all Her *Allies*. She asked the necessary Sup-
 " plies, for carrying on the War, of the *House*
 " of *Commons*; But hoped that none would
 " envy Her the glory of Ending a tedious and
 " expensive War, by a just and honourable
 " Peace; She, in particular, recommended
 " Unanimity, that our Enemies might not
 " think us a divided People, which might
 " prevent

“ prevent that good Peace, of which She had AN’ 1711.
 “ such reasonable Hopes, and so near a View.

THIS Speech occasion’d many and various *An Observation*
 Reflections; I shall only observe upon it, that *tion on one*
 the Expression, *The Arts of those who delighted* *Expression of*
in War, was suppos’d to be levell’d at the Duke of
Marlborough, and at the *Preliminaries* concerted
 at the *Hague*, with the Proceedings afterwards
 at *Gertruydenberg*. And we shall see below,
 what the Duke said on this Occasion.

HER Majesty being descended from the
 Throne, retired to take off her Royal Robes;
 And imagining (as it happen’d) that very warm
 Debates would arise, She return’d incognito *The Queen re-*
 to the *House of Lords*, thinking, at least, to *turns to the*
 to keep a Temper, and calm all immoderate *House of*
 Heats and Animosities, by Her Royal Presence. *Peers, incog-*
 An Address of Thanks to Her Majesty, for Her *nito.*

most gracious Speech, being voted, the Earl of
Nottingham, after a long and elaborate Speech, *Warm Debates*
 introductory to his Motion, in which “ he set *concerning the*
 “ forth the Insufficiency and Captiousness of the *Peace.*

“ late *Preliminaries*, made a lively Represen-
 “ tation of the Danger of treating upon so
 “ precarious a Foundation, urged the express
 “ Engagements *Great-Britain* had enter’d into
 “ with the *High Allies*, to restore the entire
 “ Monarchy of *Spain* to the House of *Austria*,
 “ and the Necessity of carrying on the War
 “ with Vigour, till those Engagements were
 “ made good: Adding, that tho’ he had a
 “ numerous Family, he would readily contri-
 “ bute half his Income towards it, rather than
 “ acquiesce in a Peace, which he thought un-
 “ safe and dishonourable, to his Country, and
 “ to all *Europe*; And concluded with moving,
 “ that a Clause might be added to the Address;

“ That

AN' 1711. *That it was the humble Opinion and Advice of the House, that no Peace could be safe or honourable to Great-Britain, or Europe, if Spain or the West-Indies should be allotted to any Branch of the House of Bourbon.* This occasioned a warm and earnest Debate, and many Speeches: The Ministers very much opposed it, and moved the referring that Debate to another Opportunity, in which it might be fully debated; But said it was not proper to clog the Address with it. The Lord Guernsey said, "This Clause
 " was in a Manner foreign to an Address of
 " Thanks; That, in all Probability, few of
 " the Members of the House were prepared to
 " speak to it; But that it might be debated
 " at a more convenient Time, when, accord-
 " ing to Custom, the House should take into
 " Consideration the State of the Nation. Some
 " went so far to add, That since Peace and
 " War belonged, as Prerogatives, to the
 " Crown, it was not proper to offer any Ad-
 " vice in those Matters, till it was asked: But
 " this (it has been said) was rejected with In-
 " dignation; Since it was a constant Practice,
 " in all Sessions of *Parliament*, to offer Ad-
 " vices; No Prerogative could be above Ad-
 " vice; This was the End specified in the
 " Writ, by which a Parliament was sum-
 " moned.

To the Objection made by some Lords, *that they were not prepar'd to speak to that Motion*, the Earl of *Sunderland* answer'd smartly; "What, my Lords, is it possible, that any
 " Member of this *Illustrious House* should be
 " unprepar'd to debate an Affair, which, for
 " these ten Years past, has been the princi-
 " pal Subject-Matter of our Consultations?

" Do

“ Do ~~not~~ we sit in the same House? And are AN^d 1711.
 “ we not the same Peers, who have constantly
 “ been of Opinion, and have often represented
 “ to Her Majesty, that no safe and honourable
 “ Peace can be made, unless *Spain* and the
 “ *West-Indies* be recover’d from the House of
 “ *Bourbon*; It is true, I see some new Faces
 “ among us; But even that Lord who sits on
 “ the Wool-pack (meaning the Lord Treasur-
 “ er) may well remember that, in the late
 “ Reign, four^o Lords were impeach’d for ha-
 “ ving made a Partition-Treaty.

THE Earl of *Anglesea*, who arrived but that *A Speech sup-
posed to be
levell’d at the
Duke of Marl-
borough.*
 very Day, at *London*, together with the Duke
 of *Ormond*, from *Ireland*, represented the in-
 sufferable Burden, under which the Nation
 groan’d, and the Necessity there was of mak-
 ing a Peace, the Conclusion of which ought, in
 his Opinion, to be left entirely to Her Maje-
 sty’s Wisdom; And added, *That we might
have enjoyed the Blessing of Peace soon after the
Battle of Ramellies, had it not been designedly
put off by some Persons, whose Interest it was to
prolong the War.*

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, who could not
 but perceive, that this Suggestion was levell’d
 at him; and, with a great deal of Reason con-
 ceived his Reputation to be nearly concerned
 in that Imputation, made a long and pathetick
 Speech in his own Justification. Among other
 as moving Expressions, he made use of the fol-
 lowing: “ That he thought himself happy in *The Duke’s
Answer.*
 “ having an Opportunity given him of vindi-
 “ cating himself on so material a Point, which
 “ his Enemies had so loudly laid to his Charge,
 “ before a Person (meaning the Queen, and
 “ making a Bow towards the Place where Her
 “ Majesty

AN' 1711. " Majesty was incognito) who knowing the Integrity of his Heart, and the Uprightness of his Conduct, would not fail doing him Justice. That he referr'd himself to the Queen, whether he had not constantly, whilst he was Plenipotentiary, given Her Majesty and Her Council, an Account of all the Propositions that had been made, and had not desired Instructions for his Conduct, on that Subject, &c.

" THAT he could declare, with a good Conscience, in the Presence of Her Majesty, and that illustrious Assembly, and of GOD Himself, who was infinitely above all the Powers upon Earth, and before whom, by the ordinary Course of Nature, he must soon appear, to render an Account of his Actions, that he ever was desirous of a safe, honourable and lasting Peace, and that he was always very far from any Design of prolonging the War, for his own private Advantage, as several Libels had most falsely insinuated, &c.

" THAT his great Age, and the many Fatigues of War, made him earnestly wish for the Power to enjoy a quiet Repose, in Order for him to think of Eternity. As for other Matters, he had not the least Motive, on any Account whatsoever, to desire the Continuance of the War, for his particular Interest, since his Services had been so generously rewarded, both by Her Majesty and the Parliament; But that he thought himself obliged to such an Acknowledgment to Her Majesty, and his Country, that he was always ready to serve them (whenever his Duty should require) to obtain an honourable

“ *able and a lasting Peace*; Yet, that he could AN^r 1711:
 “ by no means give into the Measures that had
 “ been taken to enter into a Negotiation of
 “ Peace, with *France*, upon the Foot of the
 “ *Seven Preliminaries*; since his Opinion was
 “ the same with ~~that~~ of the *Allies*, that the
 “ leaving *Spain* and the *West-Indies*, to the
 “ House of *Bourbon*, would be the entire Ruin
 “ of *Europe*, which he had, with all Fidelity
 “ and Humility, declared to Her Majesty,
 “ when he had the Honour to wait on her, a
 “ little after his Return. And, therefore, he
 “ was for inserting the Clause offered by the
 “ Earl of *Nottingham*.

So solemn a Declaration, made in the Pre- *Some Reflec-*
 sence of Her Majesty (to whom he appealed, *tions on it.*
 and who could have disproved it, if he had de-
 viated in the least Title from the strictest Truth)
 and delivered before so August an Assembly, in
 so pathetick a Manner, and with so hearty
 Concern for the *Publick Good*, could not but
 have the present Effect it deserved, to remove
 the Prejudice conceived against him by many,
 and must, in the Eye of Posterity, entirely clear
 him of a Charge laid against him, with so little
 Appearance of Truth, tho’ kept up then by
 the Clamour of the giddy and unthinking Vul-
 gar: And this Speech had the greater Weight,
 as it was back’d by the eloquent Lord *Cowper*,
 late Lord Chancellour, and several others.

THE Debate continued very warm, till seven *Resolutions on*
 at Night; when a Motion being made, whe- *the Debates.*
 ther the Question for inserting the Clause offered
 by the Earl of *Nottingham*, ought to be put, it
 was carried in the Affirmative, by that Earl’s
 single casting Vote. The Question itself for
 inserting the Clause was also carried by a Ma-
 jority

AN^O 1711. jority of six Votes ; and several *Lords* entered their Protest against it. In the *House of Commons* the Ministerial Party had a much greater Majority : For a Motion being made there, for a Clause of the same Nature, with that in the *Lords* Address, it was rejected by a Majority of above two to one.

I MIGHT now proceed to the Steps, which were the immediate Forerunners of the Duke of *Marlborough's* total Disgrace, and were taken at the Conclusion of this Year ; But shall, for Connexion's Sake, refer the Reader to the ensuing Chapter.



BOOK VII.

THE Duke of MARLBOROUGH'S
Disgrace and Vindication, with
other Transactions to the Death
of Queen ANN.

CHAP. I.

*The Duke of Marlborough's Dis-
grace and Vindication, with the
Causes of the former, and Cir-
cumstances attending the latter.*

OWARDS the Conclusion of the AN' 1712.
foregoing Year, a new Scene began
to open in the *House of Commons*; *Depositions*
Mr. Lockart reported from the Com- *laid before the*
missioners, which had been appointed the Be- *House of*
ginning of that Year, for Taking and Stating *Commons.*
the

AN^d 1712 the Publick Accounts, some Practices which they had discovered, relating to the Affairs of the Army; the Consideration of which was put off to the seventeenth of January; But Mention being made therein of certain Depositions, they were ordered to be laid before the House, which was done the next Day: Among these was one, which more particularly regarded the Duke of Marlborough, viz. *The Deposition of Sir Solomon Medina, pressing great Sums of Money taken by the Duke of Marlborough, Adam Cardonnel his Secretary, and others, on Account of the Contracts for Bread and Bread-Waggons, in the Low-Countries.* These Depositions the Clerk of the House was ordered to keep very carefully, and let no Body have them out of his Hands; But that he should deliver Copies of them, as also of the said Reports of the Commissioners, to any of the Members of the House who should desire it.

One principally concerning the Duke of Marlborough.

THAT I may proceed regularly, I shall, before I go farther, give the Reader a Copy of the said Report and Deposition.

THE Report of the Commissioners for Taking, Examining and Stating the Publick Accounts of the Kingdom, &c

Report of the Commissioners for Taking the Publick Accounts.

" Your Commissioners humbly represent,
 " That tho' they have used their utmost Application, in Taking and Examining the Publick Accounts, yet they are unprepar'd to
 " offer any perfect State of the particular
 " Branches of the Revenue, to the House; But
 " will endeavour to lay before you, after the
 " Recess, a general Account of the Receipts,
 " and Issues of Her Majesty's Exchequer for
 " the

" The Current Year, 1711. Which, they hope, AN' 1712.

" is all will be expected from them, as well in

" Regard of the Shortness of the Time they

" have been engaged in this Work, as of the

" great Variety and Extent of it. They beg

" Leave also to observe, that many of the Ac-

" counts are not yet compleatly brought before

" them ; Particularly those of the Army, which

" are large and voluminous.

" BUT in the Course of their Examinations,

" relating to the Affairs of the Army, they have

" already discover'd some Practices, which

" they conceive highly Detrimental to the Pub-

" lick, and such as they are obliged to report

" to you.

" IN Obedience, therefore, to your Orders,

" of Tuesday the eleventh Instant, your Com-

" missioners here present a State of several Facts,

" which, with their Circumstances and Proofs,

" they humbly offer to the Wisdom and Jus-

" tice of the House.

G

" YOUR Commissioners having reasons to

" believe, that there had been some Misma-

" nagements in making the Contracts for the

" Use of the Army, summon'd and examin'd

" Sir Solomon de Medina, the Contractor for

" the Bread and Bread-Waggons, in the

" Low-Countries ; Who, after expressing

" much Uneasiness of the Apprehensions he

" had of being thought an Informer, and of

" Accusing a great Man, did depose upon

" Oath :

" THAT for the Years, 1707, 1708, 1709,

" 1710, and 1711, he has been solely, or in

" Partnership, concern'd in the Contracts for

" supplying Bread and Bread-Waggons, to the

" Forces in the Low-Countries, in the Queen

Q

of

AN' 1712. " of Great Britain's Pay ; And that he gave to
 " the Duke of Marlborough, for his own Use, on
 " each Contract, the several Sums following,
 " Part of which was paid at the Beginning, and
 " Part of the End of each respective Contract,
 " in Bills or Notes, delivered, by the Depo-
 " nent, into the Duke's own Hands, viz.
 " FOR the Year, 1707, Sixty-six Thousand,
 " and Six Hundred Guilders.
 " FOR the Year, 1708, Sixty-two Thousand,
 " Six Hundred, and twenty-five Guilders.
 " FOR the Year, 1709, Sixty-nine Thousand,
 " Five Hundred, seventy-eight Guilders, and fif-
 " teen Stivers.
 " FOR the Year, 1710, Sixty-six Thousand,
 " Eight Hundred and ten Guilders, nineteen Sti-
 " vers, and eight Pennings.
 " TOTAL, Two Hundred, Sixty-five Thou-
 " sand, Six Hundred and Fourteen Guilders,
 " Fourteen Stivers, and eight Pennings.
 " FOR the Year, 1711, Twenty-one Thousand
 " Guilders ; Which is in Part of a like Sum
 " with those above-mentioned, intended to be
 " paid at the End of the Contract for this Year.
 " THAT he was obliged to allow yearly,
 " during the Time of his being Contractor,
 " Twelve or Fourteen Waggons gratis, to the
 " Duke of Marlborough.
 " THAT during the Time of his being Con-
 " tractor, as aforesaid, he gave, on sealing each
 " Contract, a Gratuity of 500 Gold Ducats,
 " to Mr. Gardonne, Secretary to the Duke of
 " Marlborough.
 " THAT for all the Money he received of
 " Mr. Sweet, Deputy-Pay-Master, at Amster-
 " dam, he was obliged to pay one Pound, per
 " Cent. That the former Contractor, Machado,
 " did

“ did the same, and that he acquainted the Duke of Marlborough, with this Deduction of one per Cent. AN^o 1712.

“ HE farther deposeth, That it appeared by the Accounts of *Antonio Alvarez Machado*, who had been a Contractor before him, and supplied the Bread and Bread-Waggons, to the Forces in the *English* Pay, for the Years, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705, and 1706, that he, the said *Machado*, had paid as large yearly Sums to the Duke of *Marlborough*, during the Time of his being Contractor, as this Deponent has since done.

“ FROM whence it appears, that the Duke of *Marlborough* has received, on Account of the Bread and Bread-Waggons Contracts, from Sir *Solomon de Medina* (admitting the Sum already paid, and what is intended to be paid, for this present Year 1711, to be the same with that of the preceeding Year, 1710) Three Hundred, Thirty-two Thousand, Four Hundred, twenty-five Guilders, and Fourteen Stivers. From *Antonio Alvarez Machado*, during the five Years he was Contractor, the like Sums, which together make, Six Hundred Sixty-four Thousand, Eight Hundred, Fifty-one Guilders, and eight Stivers: And computed at ten Guilders and ten Stivers, to the Pound Sterling, amount to Sixty-three Thousand, Three Hundred, nineteen Pounds, three Shillings and Seven Pence.

“ SOME Time after this Evidence was given, by Sir *Solomon de Medina*, your Commissioners received a Letter from the Duke of *Marlborough*, by the Hands of *James Craggs*, Esq; wherein the Duke desires your Commissioners, That when they make their Report, they

would

AN^d 1712. “ would lay some Facts before the *Parliament*
 “ a true Light, and this Justice they think they
 “ cannot better do than in his Grace’s own
 “ Words.

GENTLEMEN,

“ HAVING been informed, on my Arrival
 “ here, that Sir *Solomon de Medina* has acquaint-
 “ ed you with my having received several Sums
 “ of Money from him ; That it might make
 “ the less Impression on you, I would lose no
 “ Time, in letting you know, that this is no
 “ more than what has been allowed, as a Per-
 “ quisite to the General, or Commander in
 “ Chief, of the Army in the *Low Countries*,
 “ even before the Revolution, and since ; And
 “ I do assure you, at the same Time, that what-
 “ ever Sums I have received on that Account,
 “ have been constantly employed for the Ser-
 “ vice of the Publick, in keeping Secret Cor-
 “ respondence, and getting Intelligence of the
 “ Enemy’s Motions and Designs ; And it has
 “ fallen so far short, that I take Leave to ac-
 “ quaint you, with another Article that has
 “ been applied to the same Use, and which
 “ arises from her Majesty’s Warrant, whereof
 “ the inclosed is a Copy. Tho’ this does not
 “ properly relate to the Publick Accounts,
 “ being a free Gift of the foreign Troops. You
 “ will have observed, by the several Establish-
 “ ments, That before the late King’s Death,
 “ when the *Parliament* voted Forty Thousand
 “ Men for the *Quota* of *England*, in the *Low*
 “ *Countries*, Twenty-one Thousand, Six Hun-
 “ dred and twelve were to be Foreigners, and
 “ the Rest *English* : For these last, They gave
 “ ten

ten Thousand Pounds a Year for Intelli- AN' 1712
 gence, and other Contingencies, without Ac-
 count. But his Majesty being sensible, by the
 Experience of the last War, that this Sum
 would not any Ways answer that Service, and
 unwilling to apply for more to the Parlia-
 ment, He was pleased to order, that the Fo-
 reign Troops should contribute two and a half
 per Cent. towards it ; And being then His
 Ambassadour, and Commander in chief abroad,
 He directed me to propose it to them, with
 an Assurance, that they should have no other
 Stoppage made from their Pay : This they
 readily agreed to, and her Majesty was af-
 terwards pleased to confirm it by her Warrant,
 upon my acquainting Her with the Uses it
 was intended for ; And it has been accord-
 ingly applied, from Time to Time, for Intelli-
 gence, and Secret Service, with such Success
 that next to the Blessing of God, and the
 Bravery of the Troops, we may, in a great
 Measure, attribute most of the Advantages of
 the War in this Country, to the timely and
 good Advices procured with the Help of this
 Mony ; And now Gentlemen, as I have
 laid the whole Matter fairly before you, and
 that I hope you will allow, I have served my
 Queen and Country, with that Faithfulness
 and Zeal, which becomes an honest Man,
 the Favour that I entreat of you is, that
 when you make your Report to the Parlia-
 ment, you will lay this Part before them in
 its true Light, so that they may see this Ne-
 cessary and Important Part of the War, has
 been provided for, and carried on, without
 any other Expence to the Publick, than ten
 Thousand Pounds a Year ; And I flatter my-

AN^d 1712. " self, that when the Accounts of the Army in
 " Flanders come under your Consideration, you
 " will be sensible the Service on this Side has
 " been carried on, with all the OEconomy and
 " good Husbandry, to the Publick, that was
 " possible. I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

MARLBOROUGH.

ANNE R.

" RIGHT Trusty, and Right well-Beloved
 " Cousin, and Counsellour : We greet you
 " well : Whereas, pursuant to the Direction
 " you have received in that Behalf, you have
 " agreed with the Persons, authorized to treat
 " with you, for the Taking into our Service a
 " certain Number of Foreign Troops, to act
 " in Conjunction with the Forces of our Allies,
 " that there be reserved two and a half *per Cent.*
 " out of all Monies payable to and for the
 " said Troops, as well for their Pay and En-
 " tertainment, as on any other Account, to-
 " wards defraying such extraordinary contin-
 " gent Expences, relating to them, as cannot
 " otherwise be provided for. Now, We do
 " hereby Approve and Confirm all such Agree-
 " ments as you have, or may hereafter make,
 " for reserving the said two and a half *per Cent.*
 " accordingly : And do, likewise, hereby
 " Authorize and Direct the Pay-master-General
 " of our Forces, for the Time being, or his
 " Deputy, to make the same Deduction of two
 " and a half *per Cent.* pursuant thereunto, out
 " of

“ of all Monies he shall be directed to issue AN’ 1712.
 “ for the Use of the Foreign Troops in our
 “ Pay ; And thereupon to pay over the same,
 “ from Time to Time, according to such
 “ Warrants, or such Proportions, as you shall
 “ direct ; For which this shall be to you, and
 “ to all others whom it may concern, a suffi-
 “ cient Warrant and Direction.

“ GIVEN at our Court, at St. James’s, the
 “ sixth Day of July, 1702, and in the first Year of
 “ our Reign.

By her Majesty’s Command,

C. HEDGES.

“ To our Right Trusty, and Right Well
 “ Beloved Cousin and Counsellour, John
 “ Earl of Marlborough, our Ambassadour
 “ Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiary, to
 “ the States General of the United Provin-
 “ ces, and Captain General of our Land-
 “ Forces.

“ YOUR Commissioners having thought them-
 “ selves obliged to recite this Letter and War-
 “ rant at large, humbly conceive it will be ex-
 “ pected, that they should make some Obser-
 “ vations upon them ; As to what, therefore,
 “ relates to the Evidence of Sir Solomon de Me-
 “ dina, his Grace has been pleased to admit it
 “ in general, but with this Distinction, that he
 “ claims the Sums received, as Perquisites to
 “ the General in the Low Countries.

“ ON which, your Commissioners observe,
 “ that so far as they have hitherto been capable

AN' 1712. " of informing themselves in the Constitution of
 " the Army, the great Sums, which appear to
 " have been annually paid to the Duke, on Ac-
 " count of these Contracts, can never be ef-
 " teemed Legal or Warrantable Perquisites.

" For they do not find, by the strictest En-
 " quiry they can make, that any other *Englifo*
 " General, in the Low Countries, or elsewhere,
 " ever claimed or received such Perquisites ;
 " But if any Instance should be produced, they
 " humbly apprehend it will be no Justification
 " of it ; Because the Publick, or the Troops,
 " must necessarily suffer in Proportion to every
 " such Perquisite : And how agreeable this
 " Practice is to that OEconomy and good Hus-
 " bandry, with which the Service in *Flanders*
 " is said to be carried on, remains yet to be ex-
 " plained : By the Assurance his Grace is pleased
 " to give, that this Mony has been constant-
 " ly employed for the Service of the Publick, it
 " must be either allowed, that he relinquishes
 " his Right to this pretended Perquisite, or that
 " he has been wanting to himself in concealing
 " so great an Instance of his own Generosity to
 " the Publick.

" THE great Caution and Secrecy, with which
 " this Mony was constantly received, gives
 " Reason to suspect, that it was not thought a
 " justifiable Perquisite ; For Mr. *Cardonnel*, the
 " Duke's Secretary, and Auditor of the Bread-
 " Account, has declared on Oath, that he ne-
 " ver knew, or heard of such Perquisite ; till
 " the late Rumour of Sir *Solomon de Medina's*
 " Evidence before your Commissioners. By the
 " Contracts for Bread, and Bread-Waggons,
 " the General appears to be the sole Checque
 " on the Contractors ; He is to take Care, that
 " the

"the Terms of the Contracts are duly per-
form'd ; He is to judge of all Deductions to
" be made from an Allowance to the Con-
" tracters ; And whether in such Circumstances,
" he can receive any Gratuity or Perquisites from
" the Contractors, without a Breach of his
Trust, your Commissioners presume not to
" determine. The General may, with equal
" Reason, claim a Perquisite for every other
" Contract relating to the Army, as for these
" of the Bread and Bread-Waggons ; but his
" Grace being silent as to this, your Com-
" missioners ought to suppose, he has not receiv-
" ed any such Allowance, unless they shall un-
" derstand otherwise, when they come to ex-
" amine into these Contracts, which hitherto
" they have not been able to do, by Reason the
" Contractors are Foreigners, and resident in
" *Holland*.

" As to what his Grace is pleased to say,
" in the second Part of his Letter, concerning
" the Deduction of two and a half *per Cent*.
" from the Foreign Troops, in Her Majesty's
" Pay ; Your Commissioners can only offer
" such Remarks, as occur to them, on com-
" paring what is urged in the Duke's Letter,
" with the Tenour of the Warrant, and with
" the Method of accounting for other Pay-
" ments to the Army. Your Commissioners,
" in the first Place, take Leave to observe,
" that this Warrant has been dormant for
" nine Years, and the Deduction conceal'd so
" long from the Knowledge of the *Parliament*,
" for which, in their humble Apprehension,
" his Grace has not assigned sufficient Reasons.
" He is pleased to say, that this Two and a
" half *per Cent*. is a free Gift from the Foreign
Troops,

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“Troops, and that it does not belong to the
 “Publick Accounts: But the first of these
 “Assurances seems inconsistent, not only with
 “the Words of the Warrant, which
 “supposes and expresses an Agreement, but
 “with that Part of his Grace’s Letter, which
 “takes Notice, that he, being Ambassadour
 “and General, stipulated for this very Stop-
 “page, by the late King’s Order. Your
 “Commissioners, therefore, must be of Opini-
 “on, that a Deduction so made is publick
 “Mony, and ought to be accounted for, in
 “the same Manner, as other publick Mony
 “is.

“His Grace is farther pleased to observe,
 “that the ten thousand Pounds granted year-
 “ly, for the Contingencies of the Army, is
 “without Account, and for the Use of the *British*
 “Forces only; Whereas this Mony was, at
 “first, intended by *Parliament*, as your Com-
 “missioners, with great Submission, apprehend,
 “for the Service of the forty thousand Men,
 “without Distinction: And they find it is so
 “far from having always been thought exempt
 “from Account, that, in a Privy Seal, dated
 “the fifth Day of *March*, 1706, for Mr.
 “*Fox*’s Accounts, there is a Clause to release
 “and discharge the Duke of *Marlborough*, his
 “Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, from
 “a Sum of seven thousand, four hundred,
 “ninety-nine Pounds, nineteen Shillings and
 “ten Pence, part of this Money, which sup-
 “poses his Grace would otherwise have been
 “accountable for it: But your Commissioners
 “nowhere meet with any Mention of this
 “Deduction of two and a half *per Cent*; And
 “presume the Reason, why it has never been
 “brought

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" brought to an Account, is what his Grace is
 " pleas'd to suggest, that he never considered
 " it as Publick Mony.

" YOUR Commissioners must submit it to
 " the *House*, whether the Warrant produced to
 " justify this Deduction, be legal, and duly
 " counterfin'd, or whether, admitting it to be
 " so, either the Stoppage, or the Payment of
 " it, has been regularly made.

" THE Warrant directs, that it should be
 " stop'd in the Hands of the Paymaster, or his
 " Deputy, and issued thence, by the Duke's
 " Orders only: But this Method does not ap-
 " pear, by the Paymaster's Accounts, to have,
 " at all, been pursu'd; so far otherwise, that
 " the Payments to the Foreign Troops, are al-
 " ways compleat, and their Receipts always
 " taken in full, without any Notice of the De-
 " duction.

" WHEN any Part of the abovementioned
 " ten thousand Pounds, Contingent Mony,
 " is drawn out of the Paymaster's Hands, for
 " any Secret Service, the General's Warrant,
 " and his Secretary's Receipts, are the Paymas-
 " ter's Vouchers. But Mr. Cardonnel, as he
 " declares upon Oath, never gave any Receipt,
 " for any Part of this two and a half *per Cent*.
 " nor did Mr. Bridges, as he also declares on
 " Oath, ever see any Warrant for that Pur-
 " pose, or know any Thing, as Paymaster-
 " General, of this Deduction.

" IF Mr. Sweet, at *Amsterdam*, has taken
 " upon himself to transact the Disposition of
 " this two and a half *per Cent*. with the Duke
 " of *Marlborough*, your Commissioners are
 " humbly of Opinion, that he ought to have
 " transmitted constant Accounts of it to Mr.
 " Bridges,

AN' 1712. " Bridges, whose Agent he only is, and not
 " to have negotiated so large Sums of Publick
 " Mony, in so clandestine a Manner.

" By the Warrant, this Deduction is re-
 " served for the defraying extraordinary Con-
 " tingent Expences, of the Troops from whom
 " it is stopp'd; And if the whole has been em-
 " ployed in secret Correspondence and Intelli-
 " gence, there must have been some Neglect
 " of the other Services, for which it was ori-
 " ginally designed; And such a Disposition,
 " being, in no Sort, authorized, by the War-
 " rant, is a Misapplication of it. Besides, your
 " Commissioners apprehend, that the Article
 " for Secret Service, to which this Deduction
 " is pretended to have been applied, was al-
 " ways included in the ten thousand Pounds
 " abovemention'd, for the Contingencies of the
 " Army; And if so, the Whole remains to
 " be accounted for, which, on a Computation
 " made from the whole Sum of *Eleven Millions,*
 " *Two Hundred, Ninety-four Thousand, six Hun-*
 " *dred and Fifty-nine Pounds, four Shillings and*
 " *a Penny half Penny,* paid by Britain to,
 " and for all the Foreign Forces, since the
 " thirteenth of *December, 1701* (according to
 " the Returns of the Auditor and Paymaster)
 " amounts to *Two Hundred, Eighty-two Thou-*
 " *sand, Three Hundred Sixty-six Pounds, nine*
 " *Shillings and seven Pence.*

" ON a Computation made from the Sum
 " of *Seven Millions, One Hundred, Seven Thou-*
 " *sand, Eight Hundred, Seventy-three Poun*
 " *Eighteen Shillings and Eleven-pence Half-pen*
 " paid to and for the Foreign Forces, since
 " the Time aforesaid (exclusive of *Italy, Spain*
 " and *Portugal*) amounts to *One Hundred,*
 " *seventy-*

*seventy-seven Thousands, six hundred ninety AN^o 1712.
five Pounds, seventeen Shillings, and three Farthings.*

I MUST here rectify a gross Error of the Author of the *Life of Queen Ann*, publish'd in 1721, 2 Vol. 8vo, in saying that the Deduction of *two and a half per Cent.* mentioned in the above Report, amounted to 460,061 l. which proceeds from his putting together the two Sums there given, which ought to be taken separate; For the Report says, "That two and

A gross Error in an Anonymous Author rectified.

"a half per Cent. on the whole Sum of
"11,294,659 l. 4 s. 1 d. half Penny, paid by
"Britain, to all the Foreign Forces, since the
"thirteenth of December 1701 (according to
"the Returns of the Auditor and Pay-master)
"amounts to 282,366 l. 9 s. 7 d. And on a
"Computation from the Sum of 7,107,873 l.
"18 s. 11 d. half Penny, paid to and for the
"Foreign Forces, since the Time aforesaid,
"(exclusive of Italy, Spain and Portugal) a-
"mounts to 177,695 l. 17 s. three Farthings."

Now it is plain, that the Duke of Marlborough could not be charged with any more than the least of these two Sums (*and we shall see below, even that is by much over-rated*) as having had nothing to do with the State of War in Italy, Spain, and Portugal: So that the Author's putting these two Sums together, is false, and either maliciously design'd, to cast the greater Odium on his Grace, or a gross Piece of Ignorance, or at best, Inadvertency. Neither do I find, that the Commissioners blamed the Duke of Marlborough for the *One per Cent.* taken by Mr. Sweet, at Amsterdam, on all the Money he paid Sir Solomon de Medina; The Commissioners affirming Mr. Sweet, to have been

AN^d 1712. been an Agent to Mr. *Bridges* (afterwards Duke of Chandos,) then Pay-master; Altho' that Author affirms it to be a Charge against the Duke of *Marlborough*.

As heavy as this Charge against the Duke of *Marlborough* may, at first View, appear, the Reader will soon see that he had a great deal to say to clear himself of it: And, indeed, so much, that he stood intirely acquitted of it, in the Eye of much the greater Part of the Nation; Tho' the Majority of the *House of Commons* seem'd to be of another Opinion, as we shall see below. The Duke's Letter to the Committee, which the Reader has seen in the Body of their Report, having been publish'd, the 27th of *December*, in a News Paper call'd *The Daily Courant*, and been so favourably receiv'd by the unbiass'd and unprejudic'd, that many began to censure the *House of Commons*, for their late and intended Proceedings against his Grace, the Report of the Commissioners, was printed at large, two Days after, by Way of Answer.

The Duke of
Marlborough
dismiss'd from
all his Employ-
ments.

It will be proper now to relate the immediate Consequences of this Report before it came to an Examination, in the *House of Commons*. The thirtieth of *December*, of the foregoing Year, the Queen, being present in Council, declared, That; *She being informed, that an Information against the Duke of Marlborough was laid before the House of Commons, by the Commissioners of the publick Accounts, she thought fit to dismiss him from all his Employments, that the Matter might take an Impartial Examination*: And this Declaration was enter'd in the Council-Book. The next Day, Her Majesty was pleas'd to notify to the Duke, by a Note written

written with her own Hand, Her Intention to *AN' 1712.*
 resume all the Employments She had intrusted
 him with. A late Historian says, *the Queen*
complain'd, in that Letter or Note, of the ill *Observation of*
Treatment she received from him; But as I do *a late Histori-*
 not see any Trades of this ill Treatment in the *an.*
 Duke's Conduct, unless what was laid to his
 Charge, as above, by the Commissioners for
 stating the Publick Accounts, &c. be deemed
 so, I shall leave the Reader to judge for him-
 self. Be this as it will, the Duke received the *The Duke of*
 Message with an Heroick Resignation; And *Marlborough*
 wrote a Dutiful Answer to Her Majesty, which *receives the*
 he sent by the Countess of *Sunderland*, one of *Message with*
 his Daughters: A certain Mark, that he was *an Heroick*
 incapable of shewing any Disgust or Resent- *Resignation.*
 ment, much less of Treating the Queen ill, *Writes a duti-*
 even after his Disgrace. *ful Answer to*
the Queen.

“ THE same Historian says, on this Oc-
 “ casion, That the Queen's Message was *The Observa-*
 “ thought very extraordinary, after such *tion continu'd.*
 “ eminent Services, and so little expect-
 “ ed, that those who looked for Precedents
 “ could find none since the Disgrace of
 “ *Bellisarius*, in the Time of *Justinian*. The
 “ only Thing (adds he) pretended to excuse it,
 “ was, his being considered, as the Head of
 “ those who opposed the Peace, on which the
 “ Court seem'd to set their Hearts. We be-
 “ lieve (says another Author) very few Instan-
 “ ces will be found in History, of a success-
 “ ful General turn'd contemptuously out of his
 “ Command, before the End of the War he
 “ was engaged in, and which he had, for se-
 “ veral Years, carried on, with great Glory
 “ and Advantage, for no other Crime, than
 “ the making more of his Place, than was
 “ com-

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“ Commonly known, or perhaps desired.” And even supposing that the Court had set, their Hearts on a Peace; Or, (as the anonymous Author above-mentioned supposes) “ had already “ proceeded so far, in their Engagements with “ France, in Order to a Peace, as that, they “ could not retreat with Honour; Why (asks “ the same Author) should the Disgrace of the “ Duke of Marlborough be esteemed absolute- “ ly necessary to the procuring a safe and glo- “ rious Peace? It is certain, that the Duke’s “ Victories and Successes were the Means to pro- “ cure us so good a Peace as we afterwards “ had; And why his Grace should not have “ been suffered to have the Honour of putting “ a finishing Stroke to what he had been so “ long struggling and contending for, is not “ easy to determine.” His Enemies have, in- “ deed, with great Confidence, asserted; That the Duke would never have consented to any Peace, by Reason he was so great a Gainer by the War; But the Absurdity of this unlimited Assertion is already in some Part, and will be, in the Sequel, fully exploded: And if, for Argument’s Sake, we admit, that the Duke’s Desire of a Peace were (notwithstanding his solemn Declaration in the House of Lords) not sincere; yet the Negotiations, for that End, might have been carried on, and concluded, without removing his Grace from the Head of the Army: And it is very natural to conclude, that a Battle won, or a Town taken from the Enemy, tho’ during a Treaty, would rather have forwarded than retarded a Peace.

Reasons assign-
ed for the
Duke’s hasty
Disgrace.

SOME thought the Duke of Marlborough’s Disgrace, which (tho’, by many Circumstances, it plainly appeared to be resolved on) hap-
pened

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happened sooner than expected, was hastened and accelerated, by the Emperour's fix'd Design to send over Prince *Eugene* to the Court of *Great Britain*, to expostulate, with Her Majesty, concerning the Measures which were taken to enter into Negotiations of Peace with *France*; on a Surmise, that if the Duke of *Marlborough* continued in his Employments, that *Hero's* Representations would receive no small Weight from the Reciprocal Confidence, which had grown into an entire Friendship, between them; whereas, should his Grace be divested of all his Publick Characters, he could not converse with the Prince otherwise than as a private Man. Others were of Opinion, that it was, in a great Measure, owing to the late Counsels his Grace is said to have entered into, to thwart the Scheme of the present Ministry.

THE Removal of the Duke of *Marlborough*, as he had several, great and profitable Employments, was attended with many Alterations at Court; But as they are foreign to my Purpose, I shall only, on this Occasion, observe, that the Countess of *Sunderland*, and the Lady *Rialton*, both his Grace's Daughters, resign'd their Places, of Ladies of the Bed-chamber to the Queen.

BEFORE I go on, to give a farther Account of the Proceedings of the *House of Commons*, with Regard to the Duke of *Marlborough*, it may not be improper to give the Reader his Grace's Case and Justification, written by himself, and published by his Order, in an Answer, directed to the *House of Commons*, to the Report of the Commissioners for Taking the Publick Accounts, &c. which Report the Reader has seen above.

AN' 1712. *The Duke of MARLBOROUGH'S Case and Vindication of himself.*

The Duke of Marl. Case and Vindication, written by himself, and laid before the House of Commons.

“ WHEN I first heard of the Proceedings before Commissioners for taking the Publick Accounts, I was abroad, and in the Queen’s Service, and tho’ the Account I gave you by Letter, was not, in their Opinions, so full, but they have thought themselves obliged, notwithstanding that, to lay the Matter before you, I think myself, however, bound, to own the Justice they have pleased to do me in Reporting that Letter also, together with Her Majesty’s Warrant.

“ I AM sensible, the Nature of the Service to which the Report relates, might occasion many Mistakes, without any Imputation to the Gentlemen, concern’d in that Commission, and I am sure, that those Gentlemen, every one of them, and every other Gentleman here, will be glad to find himself convinced, that as I have, in some Measure, deserved the good Opinion of my Countrymen on former Occasions, so nothing will appear on this, which can draw upon me the Blame of this House.

“ THE first Article, in the Report, is founded upon the Deposition of Sir Solomon de Medina, by which you are informed of a yearly Sum paid by him and his Predecessors, Contractors for Bread and Bread-Waggons, to myself. This Payment, in my Letter, I have called a Perquisite, of the General or Commander in Chief, in the Low-Countries; And it has been constantly applied, to one of the most important Parts of the Service there.

there, I mean the procuring Intelligence, and other secret Services.

The Commissioners are pleased to observe, THAT these Sums cannot be esteem'd legal Perquisites, because they don't find 'em claim'd or received by any other *English* General in the *Low-Countries*. But I must take Leave to affirm to this *House*, that this Perquisite or Payment, has been allow'd to that General, or Commander in Chief, in the *Low-Countries*, both before and ever since the Revolution, to enable him to carry such secret Services. The like Allowance was made to Prince *Waldeck*, whilst he was General of the *Dutch* Army in *Flanders*; it was made during the last War as well as this: And for your farther Satisfaction in this Matter, I am content to refer myself to Sir *Solomon de Medina*, who cannot but own, that when he made this Allowance, he knew it to be the constant Practice, during the former Wars in the *Low Countries*, and particularly, when Prince *Waldeck* commanded there: And if it be a Circumstance worth your Notice, he must inform you also, That the Allowance of Waggon's which the Report takes Notice of, is usual likewise; That he has allowed the like, or near the like Number, to Count *Tilly*; Tho' he was not Velt-Marshall, and that there is a proportionable Allowance, of the same Kind, to other Officers. The Report may have observed very rightly, that by the strictest Enquiry the Commissioners could make, they cannot find that any *English* General ever received this Perquisite. But I presume to say the Reason is, that there never was any

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“ other *English* General, besides myself, who
 “ was Commander in Chief in the *Low Coun-*
 “ *tries*. I crave Leave then to say, That this
 “ Observation in the Report was occasioned
 “ thro’ the Want of a due Information in the
 “ Usage of the Army. In receiving this as
 “ an established and known Perquisite, I have
 “ followed and kept up that Usage, which I
 “ found in the Army, when I first entered up-
 “ on that Service; And upon this Ground
 “ alone, I hope that this *House* will not think
 “ that I was unwarranted in taking it.

“ BUT that no Doubt may remain with you,
 “ I will state, as well as I can, what I have
 “ learnt, and during that Time I have been in
 “ the Service, have been always understood to
 “ be the Ground, as well as the Design of this
 “ Allowance. The Contracts of Bread being
 “ of Necessity of the same Rates for the whole
 “ Army, and it being for the Security of the
 “ Service, those Contracts should be in the
 “ fewest Hands; the certain Gain upon so
 “ large a Sum as a Contract for the whole, or
 “ that Part of the Army, even at the lowest
 “ Prices, makes this yearly Allowance to have
 “ been thought not unreasonable from the Con-
 “ tracter. This being an Allowance generally
 “ arising from Contracts, that concern a Va-
 “ riety of Troops; all under the same Gene-
 “ ral, must naturally fall under the Direction,
 “ and come into the Hands of the Commander
 “ in Chief, as an Allowance to enable him to
 “ carry on such Designs, which could not be
 “ foreseen, but yet are necessary to be put in
 “ Execution, and which chiefly depend upon
 “ Intelligence.

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" I THOUGHT it more needful to give you
 " this Account of the Nature and Delign of
 " this Allowance ; Because I observe, from
 " the Report, that the Objection is to the Jus-
 " tice and Reasonableness of the Perquisite it
 " self, without having Regard to the Applica-
 " tion or Use for which it is intended.

" BUT the Commissioners apprehend this not
 " to be a justifiable Perquisite, because they say,
 " the Publick, or the Troops, necessarily suf-
 " fer in Proportion to every such Perquisite.

" If these Observations were well ground-
 " ed, I should think them good Reasons to put an
 " End to the Allowance, and, at the same
 " Time, to blame those who first introduced
 " it. But I take upon me to affirm, that this
 " neither is ; nor can be the Case. I have never
 " heard a Complaint either of publick or par-
 " ticular Injury from this Allowance, nor does
 " the Report assign any Particular, wherein it
 " may be judg'd to be so.

" THIS Allowance to the General can have
 " no Influence upon the Contract itself, which
 " is actually made and signed at the *Treasury*,
 " and the Price regulated by what the *States*
 " have agreed to pay for the Bread for their
 " Forces. I appeal to all the Officers who have
 " served with me in *Flanders*, whether the
 " Forces in her Majesty's Pay have not all
 " along, had as much, and as good Bread, as
 " those of the *States*, and at the same Prices,
 " which every Body will believe, to be the low-
 " est that consider the frugal Oeconomy of the
 " *States*, and the small Pay of their Troops.
 " And, therefore, I may safely conclude, that
 " if the *English* have had their Bread as cheap
 " as the *Dutch*, they have had it as cheap as

AN' 1712. " was possible. Nor, indeed, can it be ima-
 " gined to be otherwise ; for the very Supposi-
 " tion of two different Prices paid by the dif-
 " ferent Troops in the same Army, for the same
 " Quantity of Bread, would occasion a Mu-
 " tiny.

" BUT this whole Affair has been so regula-
 " ted, and there has been so little Occasion of
 " Complaint, that it is well known, our Ar-
 " my in *Flanders* has been duly supply'd with
 " Bread, during the whole War, and has re-
 " ceived it with an Exactness that will hardly
 " be thought consistent with the Secrecy and
 " Suddenness of some of the Motions that have
 " been made.

" THE Report farther says, That the Gene-
 " ral is the sole Checque upon the Contracter ;
 " that he is to take Care of the Performance of
 " the Contract, and to judge of all Deductions
 " to be made from, and Allowances, to the
 " Contracter ; And from these Suggestions it
 " infers, That under these Circumstances, it is a
 " Breach of Trust in him to receive the Per-
 " quisite.

" THIS Observation amounts to no more
 " than suggesting a Possibility of Inconveniencies,
 " from an ancient Usage in the Army, and if
 " by calling the General the sole Checque upon
 " the Contracter, is meant that he is the Person
 " who is to receive Complaints concerning the
 " Execution of the Contract (and so far only it is
 " true) I affirm, That upon all Complaints I
 " have given full Redress ; Either by ordering
 " other Bread, or the Value in Money, at the
 " Choice of the Troops : For the Truth of
 " which, I appeal to the Officers of the Army.
 " And as to the General being to judge of all
 " Deducti-

“ Deductions to be made from, and Allowances AN’ 1712.
“ to, the Contractors, I am entirely a Stranger
“ to any such Deductions and Allowances, of
“ which the General is supposed to be the
“ Judge.

“ ONE Circumstance remains upon this Arti-
“ cle, which I barely touch upon, to remove
“ a Prejudice raised by the Report, from the
“ Caution and Secrecy with which, it is said,
“ the Mony has been received. This is sup-
“ posed only by an Allegation, that my Secre-
“ tary, Mr. *Cardonnel*, had declared upon Oath,
“ that he never knew of any such Perquisite
“ ’till lately, which it is supposed he ought to
“ have done, as Auditor of the Bread-Account;
“ But I take Leave to say, *First*, That he ne-
“ ver was Auditor of the Bread-Account, nor
“ has any Thing to do with it; *Secondly*, Tho’
“ it is said, in the Report, that he declared upon
“ Oath, yet I cannot obtain or hear of any such
“ Deposition; Nor is it possible he could
“ declare so. In this Part of the Report,
“ there must have happen’d some Mistake: For
“ I presume Mr. *Cardonnel*, who is a Member of
“ this *House*, cannot but declare, that he knows
“ of this Perquisite; Tho’ he might be igno-
“ rant of the same, till Notice came to the
“ Camp of what Sir *Solomon de Medina* had sworn.
“ As to the *One per Cent.* said to be allowed
“ to Mr. *Sweet*, for Prompt Payment, I do
“ aver that I knew nothing of it, and tho’
“ Sir *Solomon de Medina*, has often complained
“ to me of Mr. *Sweet*’s Payments not being re-
“ gular, I don’t remember he ever mention-
“ ed the *One per Cent.*

“ Now, as to the second Article in the Re-
“ port, allow me to observe to you; that it

AN^d 1712. “ his arisen only from the Information, I my-
 “ self gave the Commissioners by my Letters to
 “ to them: This Matter having Relation to
 “ that Part of the Service to which the Sums
 “ in the former Article have been apply’d, That
 “ the Commissioners might have a true State
 “ of it, I chose to insert a short Account of it
 “ in my Letter to them.

“ If I did this voluntarily, out of Duty to the
 “ Publick, I hope I shall be thought to have
 “ given you Information upon a certain Belief,
 “ that I was altogether blameless in the Part I
 “ have in it.

“ ’Twill be necessary, that I trouble the
 “ House with an Account of the Time and Occa-
 “ sion, whence this Payment of two and a half
 “ per Cent. by the Foreign Troops, commenced.

“ DURING the last War, the Allowance,
 “ by *Parliament*, for the Contingencies of the
 “ Army, of which that of Secret Service is
 “ the Principal, was fifty Thousand Pounds *per*
 “ *Annum*. But this Allowance fell so far short
 “ of the Expence on that long Head, that upon
 “ the Prospect of this War’s breaking out, the
 “ late King assured me, that this Part of the
 “ Service never cost him less than seventy Thou-
 “ sand Pounds a Year: However, the Al-
 “ lowance of *Parliament*, for the whole Contin-
 “ gent Service, during this War, has been but
 “ Ten Thousand *per Annum*; Three Thou-
 “ sand Pounds of which, or thereabouts, has
 “ generally gone for other Contingencies, than
 “ that of Intelligence. The late King, being
 “ unwilling to come to *Parliament* for more
 “ Money on that Head of the Service, proposed
 “ this Allowance from the Foreign Troops, as
 “ an Expedient to assist that Part of the Ser-
 “ vice

“vice, and commanded me to make the Pro- AN’ 1712.
 “position to them; Which I did accordingly,
 “and it was readily consented to. By this
 “Means, a New Fund of about 15,000 Pounds
 “*per Annum*, was provided for carrying on the
 “Secret Service, without any Expence to the
 “Publick, or Grievance to the Troops from
 “whom the Allowance was made: For when
 “the Publick pays, those Troops are not at
 “all affected, or one Farthing increased, in
 “Consideration of this Deduction, nor is there,
 “in any Conventions for them, any Weight
 “laid upon it, the Hire of Foreign Troops
 “being governed by settled Rules and Treaties,
 “and the Conventions of the *States*, for them,
 “being in the same Terms.

“THIS Expedient being formed, in the Man-
 “ner I have shewn, Her Majesty was pleased
 “to approve it by her Warrant, which being
 “understood as a Confirmation of an Agreement
 “with the Foreign Troops, not negociated by,
 “and, by Consequence, not within the Care or
 “Business of the *Treasury*, was counter-sign’d
 “by the Secretary of State, whose Province
 “it belonged to, as the only proper Officer.

“THE true Design of this Deduction being
 “to supply the secret Service, Gentlemen, I
 “hope you will observe, that this, together
 “with the Sum on the former *Article* of the
 “*Allowance* by *Parliament*, when put together,
 “does fall short of the Allowance given by
 “*Parliament* in the last War, upon this Head.

“I CANNOT suppose that I need say how Ef-
 “fential a Part of the Service this is, that no
 “War can be conducted successfully without
 “early and good Intelligence, and that such
 “Advices can’t be had but at a very great
 “Expence

AN' 1712. " Expenſe. No Body can be ignorant of this,
 " that knows any Thing of Secret Correſpon-
 " dence, or conſiders the Numbers of Perſons
 " that muſt be employed in it, the great Ha-
 " zard they undergo, the Variety of Places in
 " which the Correſpondence muſt be kept, and
 " the conſtant Neceſſity there is of ſupporting
 " and feeding this Service; Not to mention
 " ſome extraordinary Expenſes of a higher Na-
 " ture, which ought only to be hinted at.
 " And I affirm, that whatever Sums have been
 " received on this Account, have been conſtantly
 " employed in procuring Intelligence, in keeping
 " Correſpondence, and other ſecret Service. If
 " any Gentleman ſhould doubt this, and ima-
 " gine that this Expenſe could have been ſup-
 " ported by the 10,000 *l. per Annum*, I de-
 " ſire them to conſider, that the preſent War
 " in *Flanders*, from the Beginning of it, has
 " been an offensive War; the Campaigns ear-
 " ly and long; The Variety of Actions have
 " been very great, wherein ſo many Battles
 " have been fought, Lines forced, and ſo many
 " ſtrong Towns taken, with Trenches opened.
 " But yet during the laſt War, which was of
 " another kind, if Regard be had only to what
 " was allowed by the Publick, it is certain that
 " the Charge on this Head, in three Campaigns
 " of that War, came to at leaſt as much as all
 " the Ten Campaigns of this. And tho' the
 " Merit of our Succeſſes ſhould be leaſt of
 " all attributed to the General; Yet the many
 " ſucceſſful Actions, ſuch as have ſurpaſſed our
 " own Hopes, or the Apprehenſions of the Ene-
 " my, in this preſent War, in *Flanders*, to which
 " our conſtant good Intelligence, has greatly
 " contributed, muſt convince every Gentleman,
 " that

“ that such Advices have been obtained, and AN’ 1712.
 “ consequently that this Mony has been right-
 “ ly applied.

“ HAVING given this full and faithful Ac-
 “ count of the Rise and Use of this Deduction,
 “ it must, I flatter myself, appear to every Body
 “ that hears me, to have been a Real Service,
 “ as well as saving of Mony to the Publick :
 “ And tho’ Honour is due to the Memory of
 “ the late King, who formed this Expedient,
 “ and to Her Majesty who approved of it, by
 “ Her Warrant, I can’t upon this Ground ap-
 “ prehend any Imputation to myself, who have
 “ pursued this so much to the Advantage of
 “ my Country.

“ BEFORE I take Notice of the Remarks made
 “ by the Commissioners, upon this Part of the
 “ Letter, I make one general Observation upon
 “ the Nature of this Deduction, which those
 “ Gentlemen, throughout their Report, call
 “ Publick Mony, and to be accounted for,
 “ in the same Manner as other publick Mo-
 “ ny is usually accounted for. But the No-
 “ tion, I apprehend, is wholly misapply’d,
 “ as will appear by shortly stating the Fact
 “ itself. By the Treaties with the Foreign
 “ Princes, for the Hire of their Troops,
 “ the whole Subsidies stipulated for are due,
 “ and the Receipt is by them given for
 “ the whole Mony, which is a sufficient
 “ Voucher to discharge the Pay-Master in the
 “ Exchequer, and thereby the Account, as to
 “ the Publick. This Deduction so made does
 “ not properly Issue out of the Exchequer, but
 “ out of the Mony of the Foreign Troops, for
 “ their Proportion of the Contingencies, and
 “ therefore, I still apprehend, I speak properly,
 “ when

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“ When, in my Letter, I affirm, That this
 “ two and a half *per Cent.* does not belong to
 “ the Publick Accounts. But as this Deduction
 “ arises from the Agreement set on Foot by His
 “ late Majesty, and confirm’d by Her Ma-
 “ jesty, as it comes in here as a Proportion to
 “ the Expence, which ought to fall upon the
 “ Foreign Troops, and being apply’d to a Part
 “ of the Publick Service; Gentlemen may, if
 “ they think fit, in this Sense, call it Publick
 “ Money, to be accounted for, in such a Man-
 “ ner, as the Nature of the Sense admits, and as
 “ the Publick Allowance to the same Service is
 “ accounted for.

” Having thus explained this Matter to you,
 ” I beg the Patience of the *House* to go on, and
 ” consider the particular Remarks that have been
 ” made upon it.

” FIRST, IT has been objected, That Her
 ” Majesty’s Warrant has been kept Dormant
 ” for nine Years, and the Deduction conceal’d
 ” from the Knowledge of the *Parliament*; But
 ” surely the Warrant cannot be said to have
 ” been kept Dormant, that has been lodg’d in
 ” the Hands of the Pay-Master General’s De-
 ” puty in *Holland*, which was deliver’d to me
 ” out of the Office of the Secretary of State,
 ” Sign’d by her Majesty, and counter-sign’d by
 ” him, as all Warrants are, and which could
 ” not possibly be conceal’d from the Commanders
 ” of so many Foreign Troops, nor indeed from
 ” the Troops themselves, which consist of so
 ” many Thousand Men, without whose Know-
 ” ledge the Deduction could not have been
 ” made; and who, if it had been the least
 ” uneasy to them, would no doubt have com-
 ” plain’d. In what Sense can this be call’d a
 ” Dormant

Dormant Warrant, which, from the Time An^d 1712.
'twas sign'd, had been in the Hands of the
proper Officer, and constantly and publicly
put in Execution? The Report adds, that the
Deduction has been conceal'd from the *Par-*
liament; For which it is said, I have not as-
sign'd sufficient Reasons; But as there has
been no Concealment, there could be no Need
of assigning Reasons for it, much less was it
necessary to lay Accounts of the Mony before
the *Parliament*, it being no Part of the Esti-
mate for the Service, nor of any Influence
on the Money to be given by *Parlia-*
ment; For the Subsidies to the Foreign
Troops are govern'd by previous Treaties,
and therefore must have continued the same;
tho' this Deduction had never been made:
Besides that, the Exchequer is discharg'd
of this Mony, on the Receipt from the Fo-
reign Troops for the compleat Subsidy. I
have said in my Letter, that this being a
Free Gift of the Foreign Troops, does not
properly relate to the Publick Accounts: Up-
on which the Commissioners observe, that
this is inconsistent not only to the Words of
the Warrant, which supposes an Agreement,
but with that Part of my Letter which takes
Notice of this Stoppage, to be stipulated for
by me as Ambassadour; And from thence the
Report concludes, that this Mony is to be
accounted for, as other Publick Mony is:
But this Observation, I take to be grounded
upon the mistaken Notion of Publick
Mony, which, as has already been observed,
being meant of Mony granted by *Parlia-*
ment, and standing in Charge in the Ex-
chequer, can never be applyed to this Pay-
ment; Which is a Contribution by the Fo-
reign

An' 1712." reign Troops, out of their own Mony, and
 " not out of the Mony of *Great Britain*.
 " might say, that tho' this Deduction has been
 " submitted to by the Foreign Troops, during
 " this War, yet it is so far voluntary at this Day,
 " that it depends barely upon a Parole-Stipula-
 " tion, and when Umbrage shall be given, may
 " at any Time be receded from by them. This
 " Report farther objects, that the 10,000 *l.*
 " given for Contingencies, is not confined to the
 " *British* Troops, but was intended for the
 " 40,000 Men, without Distinction. Now the
 " contrary to this is evident; For, in the Esti-
 " mate laid yearly before this *House*, 'tis plain
 " that this is given for the *British* Troops only;
 " and not for the Rest of the 40,000; And in the
 " Estimate for the Foreign Troops, the Arti-
 " cle of Contingencies is omitted, for no other
 " Reason, but because by this Warrant it was
 " otherwise provided for; And therefore the
 " Words of the Warrant are for defraying
 " contingent Expences relating to them, which
 " is plainly said in Opposition to the contingent
 " Mony allow'd for her Majesty's own Troops;
 " And the like contingent Mony has not only
 " been allowed, upon all other Parts of the Ser-
 " vice; But, it will appear, by examining what
 " has been so allowed, that the Sums have ex-
 " ceeded in Proportion what has been ever al-
 " lowed for the Army in *Flanders*: But the
 " Report adds, that the 10,000 Pounds has
 " not always been thought exempt from Ac-
 " count; as appears from a Privy-Seal, bearing
 " Date in *March*, 1706; wherein there is a
 " Clause releasing me from a Sum, part of the
 " 10,000 *l.* which, the Report says, supposes
 " it had otherwise been to be accounted for.
 " When I say, in my Letter, that the 10,000 *l.*
 " given

" given by *Parliament*, is without Account ; AN^o 1712.
 " I dare say, I cannot easily be misunderstood :
 " The Nature of the Thing not admitting of a
 " particular Account, and the constant Practice
 " never requiring any. In all the Accounts
 " during the War, of that Mony, my Re-
 " ceipt has been a sufficient Discharge ; But
 " that not being a regular Voucher for the Pay-
 " master, it has been thought necessary from
 " Time to Time, to grant a Privy Seal, to en-
 " able the Pay-master to pass that Part of his
 " Account ; And tho' there be that Clause in-
 " serted in the Privy Seal, mention'd in the Re-
 " port ; Of which, I affirm, I was unacquaint-
 " ed ; I yet presume to say, that it was not only
 " needless, but also contrary to all Practice, both
 " before and since ; For the Truth of which
 " I appeal to the Pay-Master-General, who will
 " do me Justice in it, if any Gentlemen can
 " doubt it.

" As to the Legality of the Warrant, which
 " is the next Objection, the Commissioners
 " having barely touched on this, as not duly
 " countersign'd, I think it sufficient to say, That
 " this Warrant, being principally intended for
 " confirming an Agreement with Foreign
 " Princes, was properly countersign'd by the
 " Secretary of State, for that Province, rather
 " than by the Lord Treasurer, who could have
 " nothing to do with it ; However, I must be-
 " lieve, that an Error of this Kind, if any Bo-
 " dy should think it so, which depends upon a
 " Nicety, can't be thought to affect the Gene-
 " ral, whose Part has only been to apply the
 " Mony as the Warrant directs.

" But 'tis farther remarked, that neither the
 " Stoppage nor Payment of this Mony, have
 " been regularly made, FIRST, Not the Stop-
 " page

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" page because the Warrant directs it should be
 " stop'd in the Hands of the Paymaster, or his
 " Deputy. But this Method does not appear
 " by the Paymaster's Account to have been
 " pursued; But, on the contrary; it is said,
 " that the Payments to the Foreign Troops are
 " always compleat, and the Receipt taken in
 " full, without any Notice of the Deduction.
 " But yet I presume to say, the Stoppage has
 " been regularly made, in Pursuance to the
 " Warrant. The Deputy Paymaster is expres-
 " ly authoriz'd, by the Warrant, to make that
 " Stoppage; And 'tis of Necessity he should
 " make it, who resides Abroad, where the
 " Matter must be transacted, and the Stoppage
 " applied. And it may not be amiss to ob-
 " serve, that in Cases where Deductions are in-
 " tended to be accounted for, as publick Mony,
 " the Warrant, which authorizes such De-
 " ductions, directs the same to be accounted for,
 " and the Manner in which it is to be done:
 " But where Deductions are made by Virtue
 " of Warrants, that contain no such Directions
 " in them, as in the present Instance, it hath
 " been presum'd, that there was no Intentions
 " such Deductions should be accounted for to
 " the Publick.

" Next, as to the Payment, this is said not
 " to be according to the Warrant, because
 " Mr. Bridges, nor Mr. Cardonnel, ever saw
 " any Warrant, from me, directing the Pay-
 " ment of it. I am not surpriz'd if the Gen-
 " tlemen, in this Circumstance especially, might
 " not be appriz'd of the Method of issuing
 " Mony only made for Secret Service, which
 " could be in my own Knowledge; But for
 " their Information, and the Satisfaction of
 " the House, I take the Liberty to acquaint
 " you

you, that the Method of issuing this, and AN' 1712.
the publick Allowance of 10,000 l. for secret
Service, hath been exactly the same, and in
this Manner.

" I SENT my Letters to the Deputy-Pay-
Master, requiring the Payment of the Sum
I had Occasion for, to myself; and for
such Sums as were receiv'd, from Time to Time,
giving my Receipt. This is the *Order of the*
General, which is meant by Her Maje-
sty's Warrant; And which alone is practica-
ble in this, as well as in the Instance of the
10,000 l. contingent Mony. Nor is there
any Gentleman that considers the Nature of
Secret Service, but must see it is not possible,
by the General's Warrant, to direct the Pay-
ment to the Person, for whose Use it is re-
ceived.

" BUT the Commissioners are of Opinion,
that the Deputy-Pay-Master ought to have
transmitted constant Accounts of this Deduc-
tion, to the Pay-Master General. If I could
believe the *House* would expect from me an
Account of a Circumstance, for which the
Deputy-Pay-Master alone is answerable, I
should take the Liberty to say, that, in my
poor Opinion, if he has not transmitted such
Accounts, it must be, because he is neither
requir'd nor authoriz'd, by her Majesty's
Warrant, to do so. He is only obliged to
make the Stoppage, and issue the Mony
upon my Orders, which he has done. Nor
can I conceive it to be of any Use to the Pub-
lick, or the Pay-Master-General, to have
receiv'd such Accounts; He not being
chargeable with any such Stoppage; nor are
the Receipts for it any Part of his Vouchers.
THE last Objection is, that the Deduction
VOL. III. S " being

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“ being made, for defraying contingent Expences to the Foreign Troops ; If the whole has been employed in secret Correspondence, such a Disposition not being authoriz’d by the Warrant, is a Misapplication of publick Mony. But tho’ it’s said, in the Warrant, to be for defraying contingent Expences, relating to the Troops, the Reason ’tis so express’d, I take to be nothing else, but that, in the Establishment for the Forces serving abroad, the Word (Contingencies) hath always comprehended secret Service, that having always been what was principally meant by that Article. And this is so evident, that if secret Service be not included under the Word (Contingencies) that important Part of the Service would have no Allowance from the Publick for it ; Which I presume, will not be thought expedient. And therefore, tho’ the Deduction be declared to be for Contingencies, no Stress can, in Justice, be laid upon that Word, to prove it was not design’d for secret Service. And indeed, this is confess’d immediately after, in the Report itself ; Which says, that the Article for secret Service was always included in the 10,000 l. given for Contingencies. But if secret Service be meant by, or included under Contingencies, in the Establishments for the *British* Troops, how can it be supposed, that the Word (Contingencies) in the Warrant for the Foreign Troops, is not to be understood in the same Manner.

“ No Body can doubt, but Contingencies, or contingent Expences, mean the same in both, and, therefore, Secret Service must be included in both or neither : But I cannot better explain this whole Matter, than by
“ supposing

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“ Supposing that Secret Service, being an Af-
“ fair that affects the whole Army, the Charge of
“ it is to be laid in Proportion upon the whole.
“ But the Share of the *British* Troops is born
“ by the Publick, while the Share of the Fo-
“ reigners is raised upon the Troops themselves,
“ by the Deduction, which is, therefore, said to
“ be for defraying such contingent Expences
“ as relate to them; That is for their Share in
“ the Expence of Secret Service, which being
“ principally, and in the first Place, meant by
“ Contingencies, there is no Opposition be-
“ tween the Ends directed by the Warrant, and
“ those that the Mony has been applied to,
“ and consequently there has been no Misappli-
“ cation of it. I have nothing to add upon this
“ Article, but to take Notice of a great Mis-
“ take, even in the second Computation, which
“ is made in the Report relating to this De-
“ duction; for it is said that the whole Stoppages
“ from the Troops in *Flanders*, have amounted
“ to the Sum of 177,659 *l.* 17 *s.* and $\frac{1}{4}$ when, in
“ Truth, computing them from *May*, 1702,
“ the Time they were first made, they do not
“ exceed 151,748 *l.* taking the Exchange at a
“ Medium, between 11 *Guilders* and 10 *Guil-*
“ ders 10 *Stivers*: So that this Deduction, for
“ the ten Years comes to no more than 15,174 *l.*
“ 16 *s.* a Year.

“ Upon the whole Matter, I can't but hope
“ this *House* will find Reason to be satisfied with
“ this Part of my Conduct; and I think it no
“ ill Service, that so necessary and important a
“ Part of the War, and which has turned to so
“ good an Account, has been manag'd with so
“ little Expence to the Publick; And I may,
“ with the greatest Certainty, assure them, that
“ all other Parts of the Service have been car-

AN^d 1712. "ried on, with all the good Husbandry that
 "was possible. And, I believe I may venture
 "to affirm, that I have, in the Article of Secret
 "Services, saved the Government near four
 "Times the Sum the Deduction amounts to;
 "Which I must reckon so much Money saved
 "to the Publick.

Some few Re-
 flections on this
 Vindication.

I MIGHT now naturally make several Re-
 flections on the Weight, which the Arguments
 contain'd in this Vindication of the Duke's,
 carry along with them: But as they are mostly
 self-evident, and need little or no Illustration,
 I shall go on, to give an Account of the Pro-
 ceedings of the *House of Commons*, in this Af-
 fair, and only make such farther casual Obser-
 vations, as may properly occur: Especially as
 the Duke of *Marlborough* himself, tho' some
 Copies of this Vindication were handed about
 in Writing, delayed publishing it, till the Na-
 tion was in some Measure returned from its
 Ferment, and was capable of examining these
 Things, in a more impartial Manner: This
 however, I shall beg Leave previously to ob-
 serve: That it was evident to the whole World,
 not only, that *the two and a half per Cent.* was
 allowed, by the free and voluntary Consent of
 the Foreign Troops, in *British* Pay; And that
 the Duke had the Queen's Warrant to receive and
 apply it, as he should judge necessary, towards
Defraying extraordinary Contingent Expences, (a
 plain Argument that even this was not thought
 sufficient:) But it is as manifest, that the Secret
 Service of the Army, which consisted in getting
 Intelligence of the Strength, Motions and De-
 signs of the Enemy, could not possibly be car-
 ried on, at any Rate, without this additi-
 onal Sum: Which, as the Duke well observes, w-
 all he had been allowed besides, fell very far
 short

short of what King *William* had, in the former War; Tho', it is plain, He was not half so well serv'd for it: And whoever considers all the Circumstances of this Matter impartially, cannot but be of this Opinion. The Business of a Spy is so dangerous, that no Person of common Sense will undertake it; Unless with a Prospect of so great an Advantage, as may sufficiently recompence the great Hazard he runs of an ignominious Death, in Case of a Discovery: Yet, is their Service and Assistance absolutely necessary to carry on a War with Success; And such Persons must also be chosen, as are qualified to give such Intelligence as may be depended upon; And of so much Sense and Knowledge, as to be able to judge what is necessary and requisite to be taken Notice of. The Report of the Commissioners gives very imperfect Answers to the Duke's Allegations upon this Head, and they seem to be very much puzzled to find out, or assign, upon what Fund, or Branch of any Fund, they might place this Expence of Secret Service or Intelligence. It is true, they pretend, that *the Expence of Secret Service was included in the Annual Sum of 10,000 l. given for the Contingencies of the British Troops first raised for this War;* But they give their Opinion with much Doubt, and seeming Hesitation, and do not appear to be at all clear in the Matter.

On the four and twentieth of *January*, the House of Commons proceeded to take into Consideration the above Report of the Commissioners for taking the Publick Accounts, &c. Which, with several Papers, relating thereunto, being read, a violent Debate arose, which lasted above eight Hours, and many vehement

Proceedings of the House of Commons against the Duke of Marlborough